

# THE WASHINGTON UNION.

## RANQUET TO SENATOR BROWN.

A public banquet, to be given in the city of Jackson, Mississippi, has been tendered to Hon. A. G. Brown by his personal friends as a testimonial of the appreciation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens at the capital of the State. To the letter of invitation Mr. B. sent the following reply:

NEWLYS, HINDS COUNTY,  
Mississippi, April 4, 1857.

GENTLEMEN: Your note of the 31st ult., tendering me the compliment of a public dinner, at such time as may suit your convenience, has been received. This testimonial from any quarter would be grateful to my feelings, but it is doubly so, coming, as it does, from those who were once my neighbors and friends. Its value is still enhanced, since it is offered as a token of private friendship, and as an acknowledgment that I have rendered the State some service.

I hope you do me no more than justice in the intimation that I have known how to be faithful to the principles of my own party, without giving just cause of offense to those politically opposed to me. A generous competitor never strikes an unnecessary blow, and a manly rival never complains of defeat when he has been fairly vanquished. I have always supposed there to be in my efforts to do good, and in my understanding of the rights of the South, to be a good understanding of the rights of the Union in all its parts. I can never forget that I am a son of the South "to the manor born," and honored by her generous confidence. But I should be recreant to the purest impulses of my heart if I did not strike in defense of the whole country. The interests of these sections are so intimately interwoven that a blow leveled against one is a blow leveled against all. As well might the assassin declare that he did not kill the body because he only cut the head, as the fanatic assert that he does not injure the North when he only stabs the South. Good men at the North understand this. Let it be their patriotic duty to do all in their power to assist in the truth on the rising generation.

The northern mind has been deeply poisoned. A healthy condition of that mind is not to be expected at once. Diligence, patience, united councils, close watching, and never-tiring industry will eradicate the evil. We shall have a noble band of patriots at the North to assist in our efforts. The only question for us to decide is this: "Is the Union worth the sacrifice that it will cost to save it?" For myself, I have decided; and though the prospect be gloomy, I shall counsel my countrymen to renewed efforts in this gloriously-patriotic work. I hope at no distant day to be heard at length on this subject.

It is expected of me, gentlemen, if I accept your invitation, that I am to make a speech? If so, I must say in advance, to save disappointment, that the state of my health at the time must determine whether I can meet this expectation. For several months I have suffered from a nervous disorder, and since you kindly leave it to my choice, I designate Saturday, the 18th inst., as the time. Very truly, your friend,  
A. G. BROWN.

Messrs. W. P. Anderson, T. J. Wharton, and others.

An exciting meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association will be held this evening, when it is said about 150 members, including a number of the most prominent clergymen of the city, will resign on account of the rationalistic, heterodox, and abolition discussions which have lately interested the association for many months past.—*New York Mirror.*

A large number of these so-called Young Men's Christian Associations proved to be in the late presidential election political organizations in the hands of the black republicans—and none the less dangerously effective from the secret character of their designs and operations. We are not surprised, therefore, to learn from the Mirror that truly pious men are about to separate themselves from associations which in too many instances have been used for objects which are alike opposed to the calls of patriotism and the teachings of the Bible.

From the N. O. Courier of April 21.

### LATE FROM MEXICO.

By the arrival of the schooner Union, Captain Perez, from Vera Cruz, we are placed in possession of papers from the city of Mexico to the 3d inst. As the Union reports a voyage of six days, we ought to have them to the 11th, and from Vera Cruz to the 15th. From the latter place we have not a single paper.

The *Trait d'Union* of the 3d inst. announces that a reactionary movement was to have broken out in the capital on the 22d instant, but it appears to have been anticipated and prevented. Several arrests were made. Among them was that of Sr. Aguilar, formerly one of Santa Anna's ministers.

No details were known respecting the affair, but report mixed up the name of Sr. Tacón as being concerned in it. The clergy were busily engaged in fomenting disaffection and opposing the laws. There were reports of another and a more serious outbreak being in contemplation for execution before Easter, but the *Trait d'Union* refutes them.

At length at Mexico the clergy had refused to ring the bells in honor of the adoption of the constitution, and had formulated excommunication against those who should swear to it, at Oajaca they evinced every sign of joy, bearded the churches, chanted a *Te Deum*, &c. The archbishop, in a second circular, positively declares, however, that abstention shall not be given to any who shall take the oath of obedience to the constitution. Many conscientious priests, however, regard such a *deton* as affecting the archbishop only. One, the Abbe Placido Aguirre, has publicly announced himself determined to grant it, without any reference to the archiepiscopal order.

The *Heraldo* formally proposes Sr. Comonfort for the presidency.

The names of a large number of government employees are given as not having taken the oath of obedience to the constitution.

General Corona, who was formerly exiled from the republic by war with Spain, and his office has been graciously accepted by President Comonfort. The *Trait d'Union* believes that the conjuncture would tend to weaken the effect of uniting all parties in defence of the country. General Giliard, recovered from his wound, has resumed active duties.

The British chargé d'affaires in Mexico is said to have threatened to close his legation, after the fashion of Sr. Sorela, within nine days of the 20th instant, unless his demands in the Barron case should be complied with.

A modification of the ministry is said to be contemplated. Sr. Montes is to go to Rome, according to report, to replace Bishop Labastida. Sr. de la Parra is to take the Ministry of Relations, and Sr. Lerdo that of Finance.

The Monitor also proposes Sr. Comonfort for the presidency.

Gov. Doblado is acting with vigor against the refractory priests in Guanajuato. He has ordered one, who refused to allow the bells of his church to be rung on the promulgation of the constitution, to be exiled.

General Zuloaga is said to have received orders to march with 2,000 troops to encamp in the vicinity of Vera Cruz.

Dr. George K. Oliver has retired from the editorial conduct of the *Washington Union* American, and that paper and the Spectator have been consolidated.

## DEPARTMENT NEWS.

### STATE DEPARTMENT.

**Cultivation of Tobacco in Baden.**—The following interesting communication has been received from an intelligent correspondent at Frankfurt:

The cultivation of tobacco in the Grand Duchy of Baden was commenced in the early part of the present century. It has greatly increased within the last twenty years; and particularly so since the commencement of the exportation of *palmate* cigars to the United States, and which export trade during the last twelve years has shown a constantly augmenting importance. In the Grand Duchy there are now from 18,000 to 20,000 acres of land devoted to the cultivation of tobacco. It is particularly the Baden *palmate* which yields the most and best; but the cultivation extends to other parts, and even as far as Offenburg, in Brelgarn.

The crops of the last five years differed very much from each other in regard to quantity, and still more in quality. The two last crops were superior to all others.

The crops of 1851 were—100,000 cwt.  
1852—200,000 "  
1853—160,000 "  
1854—150,000 "  
1855—170,000 "  
1856—180,000 "

The cultivation and produce of the *Fials* (Rhenish *Bavaria*) amounts to about half of that of Baden. As compared with other crops, the cultivation of tobacco would appear to the traveler to be on very large plantations, but the vast extent of tobacco ground in some parts of the Baden *palmate* (as near Seckenheim, where they reach for miles) belong to hundreds of different persons, generally foreign, viz., the Baden and Bavarian *palmate*; tobacco is cultivated only in detached and small pieces of ground; some few of the principal land-owners raise from 150 to 200 cwt. per annum; some not more than 5 cwt., and others again not more than 3, and even down to 2 cwt.

The tobacco is not put up in hushes, as in America; it is put up in straw bales. The finer sorts and leaves are put up in boxes, and exported to Spain, England, &c. Common tobacco for inland consumption is mostly sold and despatched in a loose state.

From 1844 to 1852 the prices of tobacco, with a few exceptions, remained about the same; it lowest at 73 florins, and the highest 15 florins per 50 kilo.

During the years 1852-'53 the export of cigars, principally to the United States, had become so great as to make the cigar manufacturers early and important purchasers. Large purchases were also made for the Regies of France and Austria. The latter alone bought 100,000 cwt., which, of course, produced a great rise in the market; prices went up from 12 florins to 25 florins per 50 kilo, and, since that period, tobacco, like cotton and public funds, has become an article of "speculation."

The average prices for the last five years may be quoted as follows:

Say for 1851 12 to 22fl. per 50 kilo.  
1852 12 to 15 "  
1853 10 to 15 "  
1854 12 to 25 "  
1855 10 to 30 "  
1856 13 to 40 "

The whole of the last crop was disposed of before the close of the year. Between Carlsruhe and Bruchsal the prices were from 16 to 23 florins. The first-rate tobacco of the *palmate* was sold from 33 to 42 florins per 50 kilo.

According to estimate, about one-half of the produce is manufactured, and the other half exported to England, Spain, and Switzerland, and to Austria and France.

It is quite clear the growing of tobacco is profitable; for it is known that on an average it costs the planter not over two florins per 50 kilo; and in further evidence of the fact is the constantly-increasing breadth of land devoted to the cultivation of that crop.

The consumption of foreign tobacco in the Grand Duchy cannot be correctly ascertained, there being no statistical account of it, but I have heard the quantity estimated at 25,000 cwt. per annum.

The present high prices of tobacco, in the face of good crops, are caused in a great measure by the active export demand. The shippers of cigars to America, and who have now mostly their own manufacturing, are large and ready purchasers, and for the better kinds pay high prices. The American Regie is very important customer, and the French Regie early last fall contracted with some of the Baden cigar manufacturers for 100,000,000 of cigars. The improved export trade has increased the demand for tobacco of foreign growth.

In Baden and Rhenish *Bavaria* there are no other taxes on the cultivation of tobacco except land and ground taxes, whilst the duty on foreign tobacco is 5 florins. On raw tobacco—7 florins per 50 kilo.  
On manufactured tobacco—15 do do  
On cigars—35 do do

It is supposed as not unlikely, should Austria unite with the Zollverein in 1860 or '61, as proposed, that a duty on home produce will be levied. If tobacco should be taxed, or the *Regie* monopoly system now existing in Austria, be extended to Zollverein, it would seriously injure this branch of industry. The planters, manufacturers, and dealers in tobacco, in Baden and the *Fials*, have sent strong petitions to the several German governments against any interference in their favorite staple, and they entertain hopes that their representations will not be without effect.

From the N. O. Courier of April 21.

### THE COURT-HOUSE AND POST OFFICE AT RUTLAND, VERMONT.

The Secretary of the Treasury has given the contract for constructing the new court-house and post office at Rutland, Vermont, to Messrs. Colby & Bird, of Lynn, Massachusetts, for the sum of \$52,827. The work will be commenced as soon as the Attorney General has certified to the validity of the title to the site selected.

### INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

**Withdrawal of Lands in Florida.**—We understand that the lands within fifteen miles of the line of railroad from Amelia Island to Tampa Bay, and its branch to Cedar Keys, in the State of Florida, have been withdrawn from pre-emption settlement, by instruction of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under a recent opinion of the Attorney General.

**Patents Granted.**—The issues of patents for the week ending Tuesday, April 28, 1857, are as follows:

Patents—52  
Reissues—2  
Total—54

### POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

**Postage to Foreign Countries.**—The Postmaster General has just issued a new table of instructions to postmasters, in which he fixes the rate of single letters of half an ounce or under to Great Britain at 24 cents.

Ditto to any part of Germany by closed mail, 30 cents.  
Ditto to most parts of Germany by the Bremen line direct, 15 cents.

Ditto for quarter-ounce letters to Germany, via France, 21 cents.

Ditto for quarter-ounce letters to any part of France or Algeria, 15 cents.

Prepayment optional in all cases.

The rate for letters to Canada and the other British North American provinces is 10 cents; prepayment optional.

The following instructions in regard to printed matter will be useful to many of our readers:

"Newspapers and periodicals published in the United States and sent to regular subscribers in the British North American provinces, or published in those provinces and sent to regular subscribers in the United States, are chargeable with the regular prepaid quarterly rates of United States postage to and from the line: which postage must be collected at the office of mailing in the United States on matter sent, and at the office of delivery in the United States on matter received. In like manner, such matter, if transient, is chargeable with the regular domestic transient printed matter rates to and from the line, to be collected at the office of mailing or delivery in the United States, as the case may be. Editors, however, may exchange free of expense.

It is stated that ex-President Pierce has purchased sixty acres of land in the northern part of Concord, New Hampshire, whereon he intends to erect a splendid mansion.

Messrs. Gilmore and Montgomery, editors and publishers of the *Pittsburg (Pennsylvania)* Post, have sold out their interest in that establishment to James P. Barr, by whom it will hereafter be conducted.

Mr. George Bonney, of London, is now on a visit to his brother, living near Zanesville, Ohio, a plain, unostentatious farmer, though in good circumstances, surrounded by fertile fields and well-fed cattle.

## GENERAL SUMMARY.

The Key of the Gulf, published at Key West, Florida, states that the value of property—vessels and their cargoes—saved by the Florida steamer *Albatross* on that coast during the past year of 1856 amounted to the sum of \$2,034,000; and there was allowed by the admiralty—upon the total value saved. The total value of vessels and cargoes wrecked, in distress, accidents, etc., was \$4,484,600; expenses of vessels and cargoes, including salvage, \$252,664; amount of auction sales, \$172,111 52.

A New Orleans exchange attributes the high prices demanded for kid gloves to the scarcity of rats. The same paper thinks that the opportunity for manufacturing kid gloves from Crescent city rats has passed away, because very remarkable has been the diminution of rats in that city within eighteen or twenty years. In former years, at night, when the rain had fallen, the editor had to literally kick them out of his way in passing down Chartres and other streets, and occasionally, without intending it, he had walked over and trampled them to death.

The Albany Knickerbocker of the 27th inst. states that the one-hundred-mile horse race has been matched again as follows: A twenty-five-mile race for \$1,000, to come off between the 1st and 10th of June on any track Dalton may name. The stipulations are that Dalton shall drive his horse, and that Andrew Sheehan (owner of the "Taylor" horse) shall drive his. Second race to be fifty miles for \$1,000. Sheehan is to name the track on which the test shall be made previous to the "start" which being given at the first, or twenty-five-mile race.

A Kansas correspondent states that an old trapper, who has been in the mountains since 1830, informed him that during his long stay in the isolated gorges of the Rocky mountains he had never experienced such severe weather as during the past winter. The snow had been very deep, and the severity of the weather unprecedented. As far as information can be obtained, the spring has never been so backward in Kansas.

The New Jersey geological report shows that the Atlantic is steadily and rather rapidly encroaching upon the land on its coast. At Cape Island the surf has eaten in under a mile since the revolution. Along the bay shore, at Cape May, the marsh wears away at the rate of a rod in two years. One of the beaches upon it is mentioned as having shored inward one hundred yards in the last two years.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 23d inst. states that two large locomotives, with double drivers, are about to be placed upon the Mexican Gulf railroad; that other improvements are soon to be made, and that, as the crops along the line of the road are promising, it is likely to do a thriving business.

The St. Louis Leader, in speaking of the oration recently delivered by Hon. Edward Everett before the Washington University in that city, says that it was a series of lectures—treasures of thought, of illustration, and of style; was delivered with perfect grace, with a sweetness and power of voice and modulation most rare, and no less delightful.

Says a writer in the Medical World, in treating of the eyes, "scarcely any practice has a more deleterious effect upon the eyes than reading in the cars when riding in them. The jar of the motion, the noise of the wheels, the rattling of the moving machinery, and more especially the sudden transition of light and darkness, seriously affect the organs of vision."

A telegraphic despatch from Evansville, Indiana, announces that the steamer *Julia Dean*, on the 26th inst., when below Mount Vernon, came in collision with the steamer *Rainbow*, and the former was sunk. Five or six persons were drowned, including four of her deck hands. The *Rainbow* was but little damaged. The *Julia Dean's* loss is covered by insurance.

A musical congress will assemble at Philadelphia on the 13th of June, to continue in session until the 18th. The whole number of societies which have accepted the invitation to attend is fifty-six, embracing a membership of fifteen hundred. The exercises will consist of concerts, operas, balls, pie-cakes, processions, and a banquet.

The New York Sun states that a wedding party, on the 21st instant, in North Brookfield, having arrived within a mile of the house of the bride, were blocked in by the snow, and it required the laborious services of eight men for an hour before the banks were so shoveled away as to admit of a passage.

The Pacific railroad through Texas will be 883 miles long, and has a grant of 8,617,000 acres of land and a loan of \$6,000 per mile from the State.

Late intelligence from Cardenas, Cuba, reports that sugar and molasses had still further advanced in price.

The last pipe in the track of the Montgomery (Alabama) and Pensacola (Florida) railroad was driven on last Friday of last week, and it is expected that the cars will run in ten days.

The income of the Marquis of Westminster, it is said, is £400,000 per annum, equal to \$5,000,000 per day, or over three dollars for every minute of time, night and day, through the year. Every tick of the clock throws a half dime into his pocket.

The Knoxville Whig of the 18th instant gives a glowing account of the prospects of the wheat crop in East Tennessee. That paper says an unusual amount has been sown, and if nothing untoward to the growing crop it will yield, in the thirty counties of that end of the State, two millions of bushels!

The Williamsburg (Virginia) Gazette says that last week two sailors discovered, about a mile west of that place, the skulls of some huge animal, which were five feet eight inches in length. Three joints of the backbone were also found, each measuring two feet seven inches in diameter.

A Missouri paper states that a hen belonging to a gentleman residing in St. Louis laid an egg, other than measuring 10 inches in circumference, and weighing 7 ounces. On breaking the egg another perfect egg, with a hard shell, was found within it.

The Upper Mississippi is falling all the way down, and it is thought that there will be no disruption in the ice of Lake Pepin until about the end of the present month. The Illinois is now falling slowly, with still a fine stage of water.

Nathaniel P. Banks, Jr., father of the Speaker of the national House of Representatives, died at his residence at Northampton, Massachusetts, on the 23d instant, at the age of sixty-four years.

The St. Louis Democrat states that the receipts upon the Pacific railroad for the first sixteen days of April amounted to over \$37,000. It is quite certain that the total amount for the month will exceed \$70,000.

A telegraphic despatch from Chicago announces that a battle has taken place between the Indians and volunteers under Gen. Dodd at Wallena river. Twelve Indians were killed.

The boiler in a steam planing-mill exploded in Toledo, Ohio, on the 27th inst., killing one and seriously injuring four persons. The building was demolished.

The mayor of New Orleans, in a communication to the city council of that city, recommended the appointment by that body of one or more delegates to the quarantine convention which is to convene next month at Philadelphia.

Curtis, the pedestrian, (says a St. Louis paper,) has matched himself to walk one mile against the well-known man, Flying Cloud's trotting horse.

At the April term of the superior court of Taylor county, Georgia, action for damages was brought against the Southwestern Railroad Company for the killing of Uriah Paulk by a collision between two passenger trains. The trial resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff of \$20,000 damages.

Of the 103 professors of religion at the University of Virginia 34 are Baptists, 27 Presbyterians, 18 Episcopalians, 15 Methodists, and seven of other denominations.

Another whale has been caught off Sandy Hook, making the third this season.

Rachel comes to Paris in May, and leaves again for Egypt the 1st of September. Her health is said to be greatly improved.

A Memphis (Tennessee) exchange states that a telegraphic despatch has been sent to St. Louis to Hon. Edward Everett, requesting his attendance on the occasion of the great railroad jubilee which will shortly be held in that city.

The Buffalo Commercial Advertiser states that the railroad convention convened in that city to agree upon a general time-table adjourned without having satisfactorily accomplished the objects which it had in view.

The Warrenton (Virginia) Whig states that the wheat crop in that county will prove a total failure.

The National Typographical Union will meet in New Orleans on the first Monday in May next. Ample arrangements have been made to entertain delegates from the various societies located in different parts of the United States.

John Whitehead, esq., late teller of the Virginia Bank, died on Saturday morning last, aged about sixty-seven years.

## LOCAL NEWS.

**ALBANY.**—Quite an exciting debate took place in the board of aldermen on Monday night, on the receipt of a communication from the collector of taxes, who undertook to arraign the mayor for dereliction of duty, and in no delicate terms.

The paper was also considered disrespectful to the board; and Mr. Dove suggested that it be returned to its author; but it was finally referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Moore, Smith, and Evans; the last two being known nothing brethren of Mr. McCalla, the collector.

CENTRE MARKET.—Centre Market was a scene of unusual activity yesterday morning, in consequence of the increasing mildness of the weather, and we saw many a blooming face and many a well-filled basket during our brief inspection of the premises. Obliging butchers offered us beef at eight and fifteen cents per pound, pork at ten and twelve cents, and choice bacon at twelve and fifteen cents. In the poultry line we found considerable competition among salesmen, with prices—chickens, per pair, seventy-five cents and one dollar; turkeys, \$1.50 to \$2; ducks, fifty to sixty-two cents. We were offered fish at what we considered reasonable prices—shad at twenty-five and fifty cents per pair, and large rock at fifty cents to one dollar apiece. Potatoes commanded fifty cents per peck, and apples were readily sold at from seventy-five cents to one dollar per peck. Butter sold at from twenty-five to thirty-one cents per pound, and eggs were eagerly bought up at from sixteen to eighteen cents per dozen.

JAIL-BREAKING.—Various grand juries have presented the jail as a nuisance. It is not only deficient in its means of ventilation, but is unsafe for prisoners. Occasionally inmates exercise their ingenuity by making their escape, laughing at locksmen and prison-builders. Early yesterday morning two of them saved off the bar of the lock of their cell, and severed with a file an iron rod of the window. These preliminaries completed, they made use of a rope, manufactured by themselves with their bed-dicking, which they attached to the wall, and climbed over and departed unceremoniously. As soon as the escape was ascertained, there was a bustling time among the guards, who started in quick time in pursuit of the fugitives.

Hereof those who escaped were captured. A reward has been offered by the marshal for their arrest.

THE ARSENAL EXTENSION.—The States of yesterday afternoon that Mr. Forsyth, esq., engineer, "has just completed a plan of the arsenal, streets, and alleys, well as water-lots, to be acquired by the government under the act approved 3d March, 1857. The plan is accompanied with a statistical table, from which the following facts are taken:

"The whole" comprised in the squares purchased from private owners is 720,399.11 feet, amounting, at the stipulated price of ten cents per foot, to \$72,039.11.

"The improvements upon these squares are estimated at \$3,175, making the total cost \$75,214.91.

"The number of feet in the avenues, squares, alleys, and water side, acquired by the purchase, is 1,084,618. The entire length of the extension on the Potomac side is 1,748 feet, and on James creek 1,780 feet.

FISH AND ICE IN THE POTOMAC.—Two months nearly of the vernal season have been entered upon by winter—a fact which has afforded a general theme of conversation, in the absence of subjects of greater interest. The fishes are shy, and but few, comparatively, have the boldness to venture in the vicinity of the landings while the waters are chilling. We do not believe that they have an instinctive dread of the heated frying-pan or the glowing gridiron!

It is a singular circumstance at this late period of the season that the shores of the river, both above and below the Little Falls bridge, are encased in a barrier of ice of about an average height of ten feet, as we learn from a credible witness.

THE NAVAL CASES.—In consequence of the absence of witnesses on the part of government, court number one could not proceed with the case of Acting Master Lieut. Geo. A. Stevens, who was dropped by the action of the late naval retiring board. The examination of witnesses in court number two in the case of Lieut. Chandler has not been concluded. The case of Lieut. Baldwin is still pending in court number three.

DEATHS IN WASHINGTON CITY.—The Star of yesterday evening says:

"The number of deaths reported in Washington from the 1st July, 1855, to the 30th June, 1856, was 1,081. About 47 per cent. aged 5 years and under; 8 per cent. from 5 to 20; 19 per cent. 20 to 40; 13 per cent. 40 to 60; 9 per cent. over 60; 4 per cent. ages not reported.

COMMONWEALTH.—This veteran officer is now in Washington, and has been in attendance at one of the naval courts of inquiry. He is in the seventy-ninth year of his age. His presence vividly recalls the stirring scenes through which he passed during the late war with Great Britain, and his name is synonymous with "victory."

CORPORATION OFFICERS.—The board of aldermen on Monday evening last confirmed the nomination of William G. Boy as assistant surveyor. Subsequently, in joint meeting of the board of aldermen and common council, Mr. John H. Bird was elected assessor in the Seventh ward, in place of Peter Hepburn, resigned.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF FREE MASONS.—We understand that preparations are being made for the semi-annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of free and accepted Masons of the District of Columbia, which will take place on Tuesday, the 5th of May, at 4 o'clock, p. m.

A NEURANCE.—Citizens residing in the neighborhood of the first and second wards of this city complain that dead animals are deposited there, thus endangering their health. Cannot something be done to prevent such lawlessness?

THE POTOMAC RIVER STEAMBOAT.—The Alexandria Gazette of yesterday states that the steamer *Albatross* C. Price made her last trip as a river boat on Saturday last, the board of directors having determined to sell her.

A MEDICAL CONVENTION will meet at the Smithsonian Institution on Monday next. A large attendance of amateurs is anticipated. We are glad to see, despite the discordant elements around us, the prospect of a harmonious demonstration.

THE PATENT OFFICE.—The west front of the Patent Office, with the exception of a portion of the cornice and the steps of the central portico, is nearly completed.

THE CIRCUIT COURT.—Cases set for to-day: Nos. 717, 749, 765, 767, 774, 782, 791, 792, 803, 809, 812, 818, 821, 822.

THE WATER-ENGINE was out last night, but nobody could tell whether there was a fire requiring their services or not.

JAMES F. HALLIDAY.—As our municipal election is near at hand, (June 1,) the gentleman whose name is given at the head of this article has been spoken of as a most suitable candidate for city collector, being well known to possess all the qualifications necessary to the faithful discharge of this important office; and, having been long an active and useful member of the councils of the city, with large experience in our municipal affairs, and possessing, in an eminent degree, firmness and decision of mind, we know of no one whom we could more highly recommend, or who would, we think, be so acceptable to our citizens. We, therefore, take the liberty of presenting Mr. H. to the consideration of the public as a candidate for said office, and hope that the above hints will arrest the attention of all those who are interested in the prosperity of our city. MANY CITIZENS.

The board of councilmen of New York city have appropriated \$5,000 for the celebration of the Fourth of July. The board also agreed to raise the salaries of the mayor and city inspector to \$5,000 a year each.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

### Later from California.

NEW ORLEANS, April 27.—The steamer *Empire* (47) is now coming up, with dates from California to the 6th inst. The steamer *Illinois* is now forward nearly a mile-bar and a half of gold in New York.

The *Empire* City brings one hundred of Lockridge's men, and seventy others, including Generals Wheat and Hornaby, who go to New York on the steamer *Illinois*. The rest of the officers remain at Aspinwall.

The accounts of the Lockridge retreat are confirmed. The Costa Rica had taken possession of Punta Arenas, and the steamer *Rescue*, with a great amount of ammunition, and 82 pieces of artillery.

Lockridge's men had been taken to Aspinwall by the British vessel.

Walker's private despatches received at Aspinwall state his position at Rivas to be impregnable. He had plenty of provisions, and was likely to hold out until the north transit was open to the Pacific. The same despatches confirm the report of the battle, and another attack was expected on the 20th.

General Walker's brother died on board of the *Empire* City yesterday.

The Pacific express had failed; business was dull, and Chinese products at San Francisco were advancing.

### From Santa Fe.

ST. LOUIS, April 27.—A file of the Santa Fe Gazette of March has been found. The remains of Indian Agent Dodge have been found, and were interred at Fort Defiance.

Gov. Meriwether has gone to visit Major Puchler.